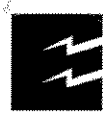

Enterprise Products

P.O. Box 4324 Houston, Texas 77210-4324 713.880.6500
1100 Louisiana Houston, Texas 77002 www.eppfp.com

January 30, 2008

Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street, MS-4024
Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817

VIA FED EX 7904 3678 8279

Attention: Regulations and Standards Branch

Gentlemen:

Enterprise Products Operating LLC, ("Enterprise") operates pipelines within the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). Enterprise provides safe and dependable transmission of crude and natural gas from offshore facilities to onshore customers. Enterprise is pleased to have an opportunity to comment on the proposed pipeline safety regulations published in the Federal Register Volume 72, no. 191 on Wednesday, October 3, 2007.

On behalf of Enterprise Field Services, LLC (02227), Manta Ray Gathering Company, L.L.C. (01796), High Island Offshore System, L.L.C. (00410), Flextrend Development Company, L.L.C. (01986) Enterprise has provided the following comments on 30 CFR 250, 253, 254, and 256.

Please feel free to contact me at 713-381-7950 if any additional information or explanation of our comments is required.

Sincerely,

Dennis A Jahde
Vice President

COMMENTS ON PROPOSED PIPELINE SAFETY REGULATIONS
ENTERPRISE PRODUCTS OPERATING LLC
January 30, 2008

An Area Of Particular Concern and Confusion:

There are items in 30 CFR 250 Subpart J that are required by the MMS regardless of whether a Pipeline in OCS Waters is to be operated as a DOI or DOT Pipeline. Upon review of 30 CFR 250 Subpart J, it is not always obvious which provisions apply to a DOT Pipeline Operator in addition to (or in lieu of) the requirements outlined in 49 CFR Parts 191, 192 and/or 195. This confusion and/or lack of clarity will be expanded with the adoption of the proposed rulemaking with the addition of terms to Subpart J which also appear in 49 CFR Parts 191, 192 and 195 such as, but not necessarily limited to, "O & M Manual", Operator Qualification" and Pipeline Integrity".

As primarily a DOT regulated pipeline operator in the OCS, we are concerned that we will be required to comply with multiple regulations that utilize similar terms with different meanings, responsibilities and/or intent.

To clarify regulations for all pertinent parties, we would recommend that additional language and a Table be added to 250.1004 listing those DOI regulations and parts than an operator of a DOT classified pipeline in OCS waters must be comply with in 30 CFR Part 250 Subpart J that are in addition to or in lieu of those requirements as put forth in 49 CFR Parts 191, 192 and 195.

PLEASE NOTE – AREA OF CONCERN. We have recently experienced a situation where we were notified one week prior to a company's planned anchor crossing over our proposed ROW pipeline. We are in the process of laying the approved pipeline. (All required notifications were made to the MMS, lease block holders and pipeline ROW holders.) The proposed anchor crossings had potential for causing tremendous expense and complications for the pipelay. MMS should include in these proposed rules a mechanism for assuring anchor crossing operations are not approved that have potential to affect pipelay operations after notification of commencement has been submitted to the MMS.

Paragraph Specific Comments:

250.1000, Definitions, Leak

- **Leak means the release of product from a pipeline.**

Proposed Language:
Leak means an unintentional escape of product from a pipeline.

Comment:
A controlled release from a pipeline should not be considered a leak and should, therefore, be excluded from this definition.

Example: The source of the leak may be holes, cracks (include propagating and non-propagating, longitudinal and circumferential), separation or pull-out, and loose connections. The term "leak" is commonly considered a subset of "failure".

A maintenance release should not be considered a leak or release of product as implied in definition and therefore meeting the design, performance, functionality of the system and its components.

250.1001, Records, Paragraph (b)

- **(b) Records. You must retain all records related to the design, construction, operation, maintenance, testing, inspections, repairs, failures, and decommissioning of an OCS pipeline for as long as the pipeline remains in place, unless otherwise specified by the Regional Supervisor or in these regulations, and make them available to MMS upon request.**

Comment:
"All" is overly broad. The rule may require a more defined definition of what records are necessary to be provided during transfer of assets. As an operator, Enterprise would like to see a "Records Retention Table" provided in the regulation

In addition, it is often difficult to retrieve records on assets attained through sales/acquisitions and mergers.

250.1003, Departments having Jurisdiction over Pipelines in OCS Waters

Comment:
Please see concerns voiced at the beginning of our Comments - An Area of Particular Concern and Confusion. To clarify regulations and place all operators on the same playing level, we would recommend that additional language and a Table be added to 250.1004 listing those DOI regulations and parts than an operator of a pipeline classified as a DOT Pipeline in OCS waters must be compliant with in 30 CFR Part 250 Subpart J that is additional to those requirements in 49 CFR Parts 191, 192 and 195.

250.1006(d), Plans and Reports

- **(3) Fabrication verification plans for pipeline risers connected to floating platforms**

Comment:
Submission of as-built data usually takes longer than 45 days to collect and with large projects may even take longer than 90 days. Therefore, the 90-day submission interval should not be reduced to 45 days.

- **(6) Final CVA design reports for pipeline risers connected to floating platforms**

Comment:
Submission of final CVA design reports should mirror requirement for as-built data which needs to be at least 90 days. Therefore, the 90-day submission interval should be adopted versus the proposed 45 days.

- **(9) Directed pressure test**

Comment:
Submission of a directed pressure test should mirror requirements for as-built data, as a modification may include a substantial reroute which will require as-built data to be provided. The requirements should be the same as for a new pipeline.

- **(14) Pipeline repair, including pressure test results**

Comment:
Submission of pipeline repair report, including pressure test report should mirror requirements for as-built data, as a repair may include a substantial reroute which will require as-built data to be provided. The requirements should be the same as for a new pipeline.

250-1007, How do I apply for approval for a new pipeline?

Before you install, maintain, or operate a new pipeline (including a jumper), or a pipeline you create with a combination of new pipe and existing pipe, you must submit three copies of a pipeline application to the Regional Supervisor for approval. If you prefer to submit all or part of your pipeline application electronically (see § 250.186(a)(3)), you should consult with the Regional Supervisor for further guidance.

Comment:
MMS should provide a guideline as to how long the approval process will typically take.

250.1008, Where must I send copies of my pipeline application?

- **(a) Impacted leases and pipeline ROW grants. When you submit a pipeline application to MMS, you must provide a copy of the pipeline application to each lessee or designated lease operator of an existing lease, and to each holder of a pipeline ROW grant (active or terminated) that could be impacted by your proposed pipeline construction or towing operations.**

- Comment:

"Impacted" needs to be defined.
Example:
If a pipeline crosses near a lease line but does not cross into the lease, is the lease "impacted"?

250.1009, How does MMS process a pipeline application?

- **The Regional Supervisor determines whether the application is complete, accurate, and fulfills the requirements of this subpart. If the Regional Supervisor determines that your application does not meet these conditions, the Regional Supervisor will notify you of the problem or deficiency. The Regional Supervisor will not begin final review of your application until it is complete.**

Comment:
There needs to be a time limit on this review process.

- **(a) Compliance review. The Regional Supervisor will ensure that your proposed operations conform to the OCSLA (43 U.S.C.1331, et seq.), as amended; other applicable laws; and applicable MMS regulations.**

Comment:
There needs to be a time limit on this review process.

250.1010, What condition must my pipeline application meet?

- **(b) You must provide the Regional Supervisor with a copy of your approved State permit (see § 250.1016(c)), if the proposed pipeline will enter or cross any State submerged lands.**

Comment:
This should not be a cause for an application to not be reviewed for all other aspects to avoid undue delays.

- **(c) If the proposed pipeline will enter or cross any safety fairway or anchorage area, you must provide the Regional Supervisor with a copy of your approved U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit (see § 250.1016(d)).**

Comment:
This should not be a cause for an application to not be reviewed for all other aspects to avoid undue delays.

- (d) If an OCS lease or pipeline ROW grant could be impacted by your proposed pipeline construction or towing operations (see § 250.1016(e) and (f)),

Comment:
"Impacted" needs to be defined

- (e) If the proposed pipeline will terminate or originate at a new hot tap or other connection on the OCS, the lessee, designated lease operator, or pipeline ROW holder of the receiving or delivering pipeline must first obtain approval from the Regional Supervisor to modify their pipeline.

Comment:
This should not affect the determination of compliance for a new pipeline application, only the final issuance of the approved permit for the new pipeline. Otherwise undue delays in obtaining a permit for a new pipeline will result.

- **(f) For ROW pipeline and new accessory installation applications, either:**

  1) All affected States with approved CZMA programs have concurred, or have been conclusively presumed to concur, with your coastal zone consistency certification in your pipeline application

Comment:
Typically the request for a CZM determination from a state is requested at the time of permit submission. This provision should not be applied to a completeness review (in other words we shouldn't need to have the CZM determination prior to the MMS deeming the application complete and commencing the application review process for approval.). The CZM determination should be obtained before final approval of the permit

---

250.1014, Pipeline Application Contents - General Information

- **b) List of Contacts - company's managerial, regulatory and technical representatives who the Regional Supervisor can contact while processing the application**

Comment:
Would prefer to be able to submit a single contact representative, just as the MMS does.

250.1015, Other general information

- **a) For ROW pipeline application, must provide a statement that certifies that you have an approved National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or that you have applied for an NPDES permit that covers your proposed pipeline operations.**

Comment:
It is up to the ROW pipeline operator to determine if coverage under the NPDES permit is needed. In many cases, the permit is obtained for planned discharge from the pipeline, but will not be maintained over the operational life of the pipeline. We recommend this condition be removed.

250.1016, Information regarding other agencies and entities

If your proposed pipeline operations meet any of the criteria in the following table, you must provide the indicated information

- **b) ROW pipeline, if the routes of the vessels and aircraft you will use to support your proposed pipeline operations are located in or could traverse established military warning or water test areas –**
  YOU MUST PROVIDE - An identification of the warning and water test area(s); and (2) A certification that, before you begin pipeline construction operations, you will contact the military installation with jurisdiction over the area concerning the control of electromagnetic emissions and the use of vessels and aircraft in the area.

Comment:
The MMS should be encouraged to provide up-to-date lists of MWA addresses, phone numbers and contact names on a regular basis. Submission of intent to work in the identified areas and proposed agreement to control electromagnetic emissions should be sufficient for showing compliance with this requirement as some MWA do not readily respond to contact.

- **(e) Proposed pipeline that will enter into an existing OCS lease, or whose construction operations could impact lease operations (e.g., placing anchors on the lease) –**
  YOU MUST PROVIDE - OCS area and block designations, OCS lease number, and name of the lessee or designated lease operator for each impacted lease.

Comment:
"Impacted" needs to be defined.

- **(f) Proposed pipeline that will cross, or whose construction operations could impact an existing ROW pipeline or a decommissioned pipeline (i.e. placing anchors or routing the pipeline across or within 500 feet of an existing ROW pipeline) –**
  YOU MUST PROVIDE - OCS area and block designations of the crossing or impact point, and name of the pipeline ROW holder.

Comment:
How is a ROW pipeline impacted by the installation of a new pipeline within 500 feet if a DP vessel is used for the installation?

250.1017, Location Information

- **(a)(4) The total length (feet) of the proposed pipeline excluding risers, the length in Federal waters (feet) and the length in State waters (feet), if applicable**

Comment:
There is confusion as to what point the MMS considers for where the pipeline ends and the riser begins, especially when a catenary riser is used.

- **(b)(4) Show the routes and flow directions of all umbilicals.**

Comment:
In many cases, the flow could be in either direction depending on the service of the individual tubes in the umbilical. We recommend this requirement be eliminated.

250.1018 Origination and termination information

- **(a) General information on the facilities where the proposed pipeline will originate and terminate**
  7) Whether the structure is manned or unmanned

Comment:
The manned or unmanned status of a platform may change over the life of a pipeline. We recommend this requirement be eliminated.

250.1019, Horizontal component and appurtenances information

- **You must provide horizontal component and appurtenances information as indicated.**

Comment:
Clarification is needed what information is applicable to what appurtenances (i.e., (a) internal design pressure (b) collapse design pressure and horizontal component design don't appear to be applicable to all appurtenances.

250.1020, Horizontal component and appurtenances information

- **You must provide a schematic flow diagram of the proposed pipeline that is consistent with the diagram(s) required by 250.802(e)(1) through (3), as appropriate.**

Comment:
Recommend that the MMS Pipeline Section use the API RP 14 C drawings, as they provide the required information and accurately depict the facility and all inputs to the pipelines.

250.1021, Shallow hazards information

- **You must provide information on shallow hazards as indicated in the following table:**
  (a) Shallow hazards survey report of the proposed pipeline route based on information obtained from the shallow hazards survey.
  (b) Description of the hazards along the pipeline route.

Comment:
If a shallow hazards report has been previously submitted to MMS, it should not have to be resubmitted with a pipeline application. If the analysis of hazards along the pipeline route is included in the body of the shallow hazard report, it should not have to be either repeated or re-summarized with the application.

250.1022, Construction Information

You must provide pipeline construction information as indicated in the following table:

- **(b) General information on the vessel/equipment you will use to construct the proposed pipeline - (1) Type of vessel (e.g., anchor supported, dynamic positioning) or equipment (e.g., trucks, bulldozers); (2) Name of the vessel (if known); (3) Maximum anchor radius (feet); (4) Capacity of fuel tanks (barrels); and (5) Proposed anchor location for operations in the POCSR.**

Comment:
Name of vessel and capacity of fuel tanks (barrels) will probably be unknown at the time of application. It is also difficult to understand relevance of this information.

- **(d) Air emissions - (1) Total rated output (horsepower) of each vessel/equipment; (2) Rated output (horsepower) of each combustion emission source on the vessel(s) and a description of its use (e.g., crane, compressor, generator, dehydrator); (3) Run time (hours/day and days/year) for each emission source; (4) Documentation of any emission control technologies you will employ; and (5) Maximum hourly, daily, and total projected emissions for all pipeline installation-related emission sources**

Comment:
Information is not readily available at the time of application.

- **(e) Vessel discharges -(1) Types and general characteristics of the wastes that will be generated and discharged into the ocean during construction operations; (2) Volume (gallons) of waste that will be discharged; (3) Average and maximum discharge rates (gallons/hour); (4) Description of any treatment or storage; and (5) Discharge location and method for each type of discharge.**

Comment:
Information is not readily available at the time of application.

250.1025, Service and products information.

- **(d) A product with an H2S concentration greater than 20 ppm, or will cross a pipeline that transports a product with an H2S concentration greater than 20 ppm**

Comment:
It is the responsibility of the operator to provide notification when the concentration of H2S exceeds x>20 ppm. We would ask that MMS make this information available via pipeline permit online query. This would assist us in meeting the new regulation.

Allow the operator 2 years from the effective date of regulation to meet compliance with the new regulation.

250.1030, Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) information

- **For ROW pipelines, you must provide a project-specific EIA that identifies and analyzes the potential direct and indirect environmental impacts of your proposed ROW pipeline operations (including the installation and operation of any accessory) to assist the Regional Supervisor in complying with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.) or other relevant Federal laws.**

Comment:
We suggest that this requirement be modeled after 250.261 and that the information be provided in the same manner and format as for DOCD's in the GOM region. This will provide consistency in providing the information which will benefit both MMS and industry.

250.1033 What are the design requirements for horizontal components and risers?

- *Internal design pressure.*
  (1) You must determine the internal design pressure for steel horizontal components and risers using the following formula or the equations in section 4.3.1 of API RP 1111 and, if applicable, sections 4.3.1.1 and 4.3.1.2 of API RP 1111 (incorporated by reference as specified in § 250.198):

Comment:
An operator of a DOT pipeline in OCS waters should be aware that API RP 1111 is not incorporated by reference in DOT standards.

Suggested change:
DOI and DOT to identify an internal design formula bridge regulatory authority.

- *Pipeline on-bottom stability.* **You must design a pipeline so that it will be stable in the geologic and weather conditions for the area.**

  (1) Your pipeline must remain stable during a storm. The stability must be determined using appropriate backfill rates and storm data for the area. If the pipeline is in a water depth less than 200 feet and is jetted at least 3 feet below the natural seabed, it must be stable during a 2-year storm (minimum). If you expect that the pipeline will bury itself naturally in the sediment in a water depth less than 200 feet, it must remain stable during a 100-year storm (minimum). If the pipeline is in a water depth 200 feet or greater and is not buried, it must be stable during a 100-year storm (minimum).

Comment:
MMS needs to clarify what is meant by 2 year and 100 year storm (minimum).

It is impossible to ensure pipeline on-bottom stability in the event of a mudslide.

250.1034, What are the design requirements for appurtenances.?
You must design pipeline appurtenances as set forth below:

- **(c) *Pipeline fittings.* You must use pipeline fittings (couplings, elbows, unions, tees, swage nipples, buckle arrestors, gaskets, etc.) that:**
  (1) Have pressure-temperature ratings based on stresses for pipe of the same or equivalent material;
  (2) Have a bursting strength greater than the computed bursting strength of the pipe; and
  (3) Use material that is compatible with the product being transported.

Comment:
What is the reason from requiring fittings need to have a higher burst pressure than the connecting pipes

---

250.1036 When must I sectionalize a pipeline?

- **The Regional Supervisor may require you to design your pipeline in sections to reduce the volume of your worst case discharge (see 30 CFR 254.47).**

Comment:
It is recommended that MMS explain further as to what the measures will entail.

250.1036 When must I sectionalize a pipeline?

- **Who must I notify before I begin construction?**
  (a) U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

Comment:
Industry has not received any guidance from the USCG indicating they want to be notified prior to pipeline construction activities commencing for all pipelines. If this is desired, the USCG needs to issue guidance on notification, including timing, office to notify, etc.

250.1042 What must I do to avoid or mitigate hazards during construction?

- **(c) You must: (1) Prepare a plat with a minimum scale of 1:12,000 oriented to true north depicting the location of proposed pipeline construction operations,...**

Comment:
We question the value of preparing a plat to a minimum scale of 1:12,000 oriented to true north. In most cases the anchor plots will be developed in the field on the surveyor's screen once specific wind/wave conditions are known.

250.1046, What must I do to protect an appurtenance and crossing?

- ***Protection methods.* You must protect all pipeline valves, taps, tie-in assemblies, capped pipelines, flanges, crossings, and repaired sections installed in water depths**

less than 500 feet with at least 3 feet of cover or with a protective device (e.g., cement mats, cages) unless an alternate procedure is otherwise approved by the Regional Supervisor in accordance with the provisions of § 250.141.

Comment:
Repaired sections may entail a significant quantity of pipe and should not require burial only because it has been repaired. (i.e., recent repaired VK-817 pipeline.)

250.1047, What must I do to construct a pipeline in or near a designated use area?

- **(a) Area conducted in or near a designated military warning or water test area**

Comment:
Although the requirement to enter into an agreement with the commander of an individual command headquarters is an existing requirement, we request the MMS identify the groups that want to continue to receive such notification and required agreements or remove the requirement from MMS regulations.

- **(b) Will be in a designed lightering zone**

Comment:
If this requirement is to be added to "traditional lightering zones", request that the MMS define those areas. MMS should provide current contact information for the appropriate representatives of the Industry Taskforce on Offshore Lightering required to be contacted.

250.1051, What information must I submit after construction is completed?

- ***Construction report.* You must submit three copies of a pipeline construction report to the Regional Supervisor within 45 calendar days after you complete pipeline construction**

Comment:
45 days is not a sufficient amount time to provide these reports and should not be changed from the current 90 days.
The completion of pipeline construction is not defined. We suggest that construction be considered complete after the hydrotest has been completed.
(3)(a)(iv) The requirement that the "as built" location plat be certified by a registered engineer or land surveyor can be problematic. In some cases, the installation contractor is utilizing non-US personnel who do not meet these requirements. We recommend a signed certification is sufficient.
(4)(a) Suggest that when there is lengthy time between pipe lay and hydrotest that survey data and hydrotest data be submitted in separate reports so that survey data can be updated in the MMS system in a timely manner.

- **(c) *National Ocean Service (NOS).* You must submit a copy of the "as-built" location plat required by paragraph (a)(3) of this section to the NOS within 45 calendar days after you complete pipeline construction.**

Comment:
Should remain at 90 days rather than 45 days.

250.1052, What are the requirements for pipeline risers connected to floating platforms?

Comment:
We fail to understand the benefit of subjecting new risers to be installed on existing facilities that predate the inclusion of risers in the CVA program that have exactly the same design as existing risers on platforms must be subjected to the riser CVA program.
We fail to understand why risers that don't carry hydrocarbons (i.e., water injection) are subjected to the riser CVA program.
Any effects of the risers on the structure they are to be installed on are covered under the CVA program in Subpart I.
Please clarify what will be done with the submitted CVA information, when and in what form MMS will approve the CVA plan and nomination.

250.1053, What are the requirements for pipeline riser verification plans?

Comment:
The requirement to submit design plans at least 30 calendar days before submittal of the associated pipeline application is too prescriptive.
Submitting the design verification plan prior to the design work being completed may be possible for new designs, but in many cases, we may be installing risers on existing platforms where the riser design work was previously conducted.
In many cases long lead items and materials are ordered well in advance of fabrication. If this is considered in the "start of fabrication", this requirement cannot be met.
We recommend that the design verification plan be submitted no later than with the pipeline application.
Recommend being able to submit one plan for multiple risers with the same design.
Question the value of the required submittal of a Gantt chart.
Although the CVA firm may have been selected, the actual individuals performing the CVA work may not be identified until shortly before going offshore.

250.1054, What information must I submit after construction is completed?

- **What must the CVA do to verify pipeline riser design?**

  (13) Provisions to account for marine growth and associated cleaning recommendations;
  (14) Recommendations on in-service inspection frequency; and

Comment:
This is outside the scope of what a CVA should be providing. This should be the responsibility of the applicant to provide this information.

250.1056, What must the CVA do to verify pipeline riser installation?

- **(e) The CVA must submit a final installation report to the Regional Supervisor within 45 calendar days after installation of the pipeline. The CVA must submit a separate installation report for each pipeline riser**

Comment:
The CVA should have 120 calendar days after installation of pipeline to submit final installation report.

250.1060, When must I perform a pressure test on a pipeline?

- **(a) *Hydrostatic pressure test.* After you install the pipeline, you must successfully perform an 8-hour hydrostatic pressure test of a pipeline (including the riser(s)) before you:**
  1) Put a new pipeline into service;
  (2) Put a relocated pipeline into service;
  (3) Put a pipeline with an increased MAOP into service;
  (4) Reactivate a pipeline that was out of service for more than one year;
  (5) Re-commission a pipeline that was decommissioned; or
  (6) Re-activate a pipeline that was modified by adding new pipe (except in the case of a pipeline repair using a spool piece that complies with paragraph (c) of this section).

Comment: Regulations do not make clear that short sections of most pipelines are not hydrotested in place after installation, but are typically 1) pre-hydrotested onshore w/ offshore radiography or AUT of final tie-in weld/s, or 2) pre-hydrotested onshore and mechanical end connections external leak tested after installation.

For instance, the tie-in jumper connecting one export gas pipeline into a downstream gas trunkline will not be internally tested due to problem of introducing water into a dry system, and need to avoid any possibility of introducing water into downstream trunkline.

Similarly, the final tie-in jumper between a producing well and a manifold or pipeline may not be internally tested in place due to difficulty of isolating w/ sufficient integrity (only valve isolation possible) to perform a rigorous internal leak test. In this case, the jumper is pre-hydrotested onshore, and the mechanical connectors are externally leak tested after jumper installation.

It would be helpful, if the regulations acknowledged these special pipeline sections and recognized that alternatives such as NDT and external leak testing are valid options to avoid an internal hydrotest or internal leak test.

"Relocated pipeline" needs to be defined

MMS hydrotesting is very prescriptive and may require additional documentation beyond scope of DOT regulatory standards.

Question:
Does this preclude pre-testing the riser independent of the pipeline?

- **(b) *Pressure test after repair using a clamp.* Before you return a pipeline to service following a repair using a clamp:**

Question:
How are "end connectors" treated - are they defined as mechanical clamps and only require leak testing after installation?

- ***(c) Pressure test after repair using a spool piece.***

Comment: Above repair/test requirements imply that "flanges" (item 1) above presumably ANSI or API flanges) provide higher assurance of leak integrity and consequently can be returned to service with an internal pressure leak test (verify the pipeline, riser, and new connections are not leaking). While cases 2) and 3) are spool piece repairs w/ something besides flanges connecting the pipe spool to the existing pipe ends require a full 4 hr or 8 hr hydrostatic test of the entire pipeline, a more difficult test to implement on an in-service pipeline. The difference is primarily we will only have to verify the new connections and pipeline system materials are not leaking, while a hydrostatic tests requires bringing the entire pipeline and repair spool to 1.25*MAOP, and demonstrate no leakage. Documentation for a hydrostatic test is more demanding and rigorous.

The DW RUPE repair system (Enterprise is a member) employs grip & seal connectors to connect the spool piece to the existing pipe ends. In general, deep water repairs will not use flanges and we shouldn't endow flanges w/ some unjustified preference. Grip & Seal connectors have been extensively qualified and tested and are arguably a more reliable means of connection than a flange, primarily because they incorporate external leak tests on the connectors which allows pre-knowledge that the primary seal has been correctly actuated before internal testing is implemented, whereas flanges do not incorporate such tests as a normal part of their use.

I would suggest changing 1) above to add after "flanges", "or other spool piece couplings incorporating an external leak test of the primary seal/s.", and changing 2) after "flanges" to add same text "or other spool piece couplings incorporating an external leak test of the primary seal/s."

250.1061, What information must I include in a pressure test report?

- (a) *Hydrostatic pressure test.*
  You must submit the results of the hydrostatic pressure test in conjunction with the reports
  required by § 250.1051(a)(9), 250.1060(d), 250.1086(g)(5), 250.1093(g)(5), 250.1095(e)(6), and

250.1113(b)(5). The pressure test report must include:

(1) Test description;
(2) Pressure and temperature charts;
(3) Instrument calibration data;
(4) Minimum and maximum pressure calculations;
(5) Deadweight pressure test readings and temperature log;
(6) Record of problems encountered during the test including their causes and corrective actions taken; and
(7) Documentation of any factors that affected pressures or temperatures.

Comment:
The term "deadweight pressure test readings" refers to a specific type of pressure gauge that sometimes cannot be employed (Subsea pressure test) or test from a DP vessel. Suggest a more generic term such as "deadweight pressure gauges or equivalent electronic pressure sensing device of high accuracy".

250.1067, When must I provide redundant safety equipment?

Comment:
The Pipeline and GOM TAOS groups need to be consistent and send a single message to operators on what might be deemed acceptable.
The proposed regulation does not appear to be consistent with API RP 14C.

250.1069, What must I do if safety equipment fails to operate as intended?

- **(a) Suspending operations**

Comment:
Requirements in Subpart J and Subpart H should be consistent.

- **(b) Out-of-service notification**
  (1) If the safety equipment remains out of service for more than 12 hours in the GOMR

Comment:
If the pipeline has been shut-in, we see no benefit to this notification. Notification should only be made if permission to remain on-line is desired.

- **(c) Resuming operations**
  (3) Provide an equivalent degree of protection and place an appropriate warning sign on the failed safety equipment

Comment:
Since no approval process is proposed, we assume that it is up to the operator to determine what an equivalent degree of protection is.

250.1071, When do I need to use a leak detection system?

Comment:
Most liquid pipelines transporting product to short are under DOT jurisdiction and these regulations should only be applicable to pipelines under DOI jurisdiction.
Provisions should be made for the use of "SCADA" or equivalent technology" for gathering process information regarding pipeline leak detection.

250.1074, What are the general requirements for internal corrosion control?

Comment:

Recommend this should be an integral part of the Pipeline Operations and Maintenance Section of the Integrity Management Program required in 250.1079. We recommend that the paragraph be deleted or reference 250.1079 for clarity.

250.1075, What are the general requirements for flow assurance?

Comment:

Recommend this should be an integral part of the Pipeline Operations and Maintenance Section of the Integrity Management Program required in 250.1079. We recommend that the paragraph be deleted or reference 250.1079 for clarity.

250.1078, What are the general requirements for operating and maintaining a pipeline?

- **(d) Maintains the approved burial depth throughout the life of the pipeline including after the pipeline is decommissioned in place; and**

Comment:
MMS has not specified a timeframe that defines continuing surveillance or surveying of the burial depth of the pipeline within the MMS ROW, therefore implies that operations may specify in the company's plan (O&M) a time frame unless there is an immediate reburial of an exposed line in water depths < 200ft.

Suggestion is to not require operators to conduct underwater surveys on decommissioned pipelines within the GOM.

250.1079, What written procedures must I establish before I operate an OCS pipeline?

- (a) *Operations and maintenance manual.*
  You must prepare a written operations and maintenance manual for your OCS pipelines that complies with the regulations in this subpart and includes provisions for all of the following:

  (1) Conducting normal operations;
  (2) Conducting periodic surveillance and inspections;
  (3) Performing systematic and routine preventive maintenance;
  (4) Ensuring that safety system components are functioning properly;
  (5) Resuming operations after a storm;
  (6) Monitoring and mitigating the effects of internal and external corrosion and erosion;
  (7) Monitoring and mitigating the effects of paraffin, wax, and hydrate formation;
  (8) Responding to foreseeable abnormal operating conditions, malfunctions, failures, or personnel error; and
  (9) Identifying and responding to conditions that could affect safe operations.

Language Change:
Request that the language state that the operator may have a 2 years or as applicable after date of implementation to define procedures to address 250.1079.

(b) *Integrity management program.*
You must have a written pipeline integrity management program for your OCS pipelines that includes the seven elements listed in this paragraph.

Comment:
While extremely sketchy in nature, it does appear to loosely follow 49 CFR 195.452 (federal liquids IMP) with the exception of HCA Segment Identification (MMS does not address HCAs, it appears to follow the TRC 8 "if it is round and has product, you will assess it" approach) and a defined maximum re-assessment period (MMS leaves re-assessment determination up to the Operator).

Offshore pipelines are not in the federal IMP

Questions:
a. When would the proposed ruling go into effect?
b. How long would we have to put the program into place?
c. What would be the timeframe to complete baseline assessments? Would this be a tiered process, similar to the federal IMPs (50% by a certain date and 100% by a later date)?
d. Would previous assessments be acceptable? If so, how old?

- (d) *Personnel qualification program.*
  You must have a written qualification program for individuals who perform pipeline operation, maintenance, and repair duties for you that may affect the safe operation or integrity of a pipeline. This program must include provisions for:

  (1) Identifying covered tasks;
  (2) Ensuring through periodic evaluation that the individuals who perform covered tasks are qualified;
  (3) Evaluating an individual if you have reason to believe that the individual's performance of a covered task contributed to an incident;
  (4) Evaluating an individual if you have reason to believe that the individual is no longer qualified to perform a covered task;
  (5) Communicating changes that affect covered tasks to individuals performing those tasks; and
  (6) Complying with 30 CFR 250, Subpart O-Well Control and Production Safety Training, as applicable.

Comment:
The language found in section 250.1079 (d) of subpart J is similar to that found in 49 CFR 192 and 195, but not exact. The language proposed is broader in scope and may require operators who have an existing DOT Operator Qualification program to develop and manage a secondary qualification program plan for management of pipelines that are considered as DOI.

To alleviate confusion and duplication of efforts for operators who operate both DOT and DOI pipelines, it is recommended MMS adopt current Operator Qualification Language found in 49 CFR 192 and 195.

250.1080 When must I mark the MMS-assigned pipeline segment number on a pipeline?

Comment:
We assume this requirement is applicable only to segments above the waterline.
We recommend having 18 months after the effective date of the regulation to complete the required markings. This would also allow planning in conjunction with annual inspections.

250.1081, How do I determine the MAOP of a pipeline?

Comment:
Recommend that the MMS establish a mechanism for including variation of the MAOP along the pipeline length.

250.1084, What are the requirements for testing pipeline safety equipment?

- **You must periodically test your pipeline safety equipment to ensure that it is in good mechanical condition, properly installed, and able to perform safety functions in accordance with the requirements in the following table. You must conduct all tests using the test procedure specified in the appropriate subsection of API RP 14C, appendix D, section D4, table D2 (incorporated by reference as specified in § 250.198).**

Comment:
FSV - 200 CC/ 5 CFM seems onerous for high volume operations and for larger valve sizes.
SDV - 200 CC/ 5 CFM seems onerous for high volume operations and for larger valve sizes.
SSV Testing for deepwater subsea wells should be extended to quarterly testing routines

---

250.1085, What must I do when safety equipment is removed from service?

Comment:
This section is confusing since it has different requirements and is far apart from 250.1069. This should be combined with that section.

250.1086, What must I do when a pipeline is taken out of service?

- **(a) Definition. Out-of-service pipeline means a pipeline that has not been used to transport oil, natural gas, sulphur or produced water for more than 30 consecutive days. The out-of-service period begins on the 31st day of inactivity.**

Comment:
This definition is alarming for subsea production systems which have sections that will not operate for extended periods of time. Many subsea flowline systems are designed where entire segments do not experience flow for extended periods of time for flow assurance and flow optimization reasons.

250.1087, What must I do if a pipeline is shut in?

- **Before you resume operations after your pipeline was shut in, you must determine that the pipeline does not leak by conducting a visual survey of the pipeline route (see § 250.1103(a)) and a leak test (see § 250.1059). These requirements are applicable if your pipeline was shut in because**

(c) Your pipeline had an unexplained automatic shut-in (e.g., a PSL shut-in).

Question: Is this feasible? How frequently do we have unexplained automatic shut-ins?

250.1093, What must I do to modify an approved pipeline?

- **(a) Definition. Modifying a pipeline means significantly changing an approved pipeline. Modifications include changing a pipeline route; installing, modifying, or replacing a subsea tie-in valve assembly; adding, modifying or replacing safety equipment.....**

Comment:
Replacing safety equipment that is not different should not be a modification.

250.1095, What must I do to commence and complete a repair?

(Comment:
Repair applications should not be required if operators are repairing the pipeline to its original design using pre-approved repair methods.
The "safe-out" of a damaged pipeline (on the riser or prior to the boarding SDV or after the departing SDV) should not require a repair procedure.
A time frame should be included in which the MMS will approve a repair application.
Since pipe-to electrolyte readings have to be taken annually, we question the benefit of taking readings at a location of a pipeline repair.
Request 30 days for submittal of repair report be extended to 60 days.
Clarification is needed as to what needs to be included in a corrective action plan.

250.1101, What must I do to survey and monitor a pipeline or route?

Comment:
This is another area where MMS and DOT regulations do not conform.

250.1102, What inspections are required for my pipeline or route?

- **(a) All risers**

Comment:
This seems like a significant impact to existing requirements.

Question:
Records are currently maintained onshore. Would this rule now require us to maintain a copy of all inspections at manned offshore facilities?

250.1103, What additional inspections or surveys may the Regional Supervisor require?

Comment:
There should be some criteria used (and stated in the rule) that the Regional Supervisor must follow in determining when these additional tests will be required.

250.1110, How does MMS process a decommissioning application?

Comment:
Request MMS establish a timeframe for reviewing and approving the application.

250.1111, After I decommission a pipeline, what information must I submit?

Comment:
Request submittal of decommissioning report be extended to 90 days after completion.

250.1113, What are the requirements for re-commissioning a decommissioned pipeline?

Comment:
Request submittal of re-commissioning report be extended to 90 days after completion.

250.1130, What rental fees and payment schedules apply to a pipeline ROW grant?

- **(a) Rental fees**

Comment:
Proposed increase in rental fees from $15/mile to $70/mile equates is very substantial.

250.1133, How does temporary cessation and cessation of pipeline operations affect a pipeline ROW grant?

- (c) Cessation of pipeline operations

Comment:
180 days time frame is too tight to manage pipeline ROW's for potential expiration. Request mirroring current DOI regulations for BLM interior oil and gas pipeline of 2 years non-use (43 CFR 2886.17 (d).

250.1141, How do I obtain approval to install, operate, and maintain an accessory?

- **(a) Accessory application**

Comment:
An application before you maintain an accessory seems onerous. Please clarify
The definition of an "accessory" includes more than platforms. Are there application requirements for non-platform accessories.